

CELLAR DOOR

for clarinet and string quartet

Ben Stonaker

(2003)

CellarDoor was written for clarinetist Jennifer Dreispul and was inspired by a quote from the film *Donnie Darko*.

"A famous linguist once said that of all the phrases in the English language, of all the endless combinations of words, that 'Cellar Door' was the most beautiful."

[The quote about the cellar door is from H.L Mencken, who claimed that it was a foreign student who liked the word(s) cellar door -- not as a word, but rather as the most musical combination of sounds he had heard in our language.]

Total Duration = 7'30"

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Moderately, very rhythmic (♩=92)

Clarinet in B \flat

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

B \flat Cl

Vln I

Vln 2

Vla

Vc

pizz. ϕ

sfz *p* *mf* *p*

sfz *p* *mf* *p*

sfz *p* *mf* *p*

sfz *p* *mf* *p*

mp *pp* *sub.* *ff* *f* *fff* *mp*

mf *p*

mf *p*

mf *p*

mf *p*

mf *sf* *mf*

8

B♭Cl *p* *mp* *pp* *mf* *p*

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vla

Vc

11

B♭Cl *f* *f*

Vln 1 *cresc.*

Vln 2 *cresc.*

Vla *cresc.*

Vc *cresc.*

15

B♭Cl *f* (very smooth, poco rubato) *pp* *p*

Vln 1 *ff* *f* *mf* *pp* *mp* arco

Vln 2 *ff* *f* *mf* *pp* *mp* arco

Vla *ff* *f* *mf* *pp*

Vc *ff* *f* *mf* *pp*

19

B♭Cl *f* *p* *mf* *p* *ppp*

Vln 1 *p*

Vln 2 *p*

Vla *arco, sul pont.* *mf* *f* *p*

Vc *arco, sul pont.* *mf* *f* *p*

22

B♭Cl *mf* *p* *f* *mf*

Vln 1 *f* *ppp* *f* *detaché*

Vln 2 *f* *ppp* *f* *detaché*

Vla *f* *ppp* *f* *detaché*

Vc *f* *ppp* *f* *detaché*

25

B♭Cl *f* *sfz* *ff*

Vln 1 *ff*

Vln 2 *ff*

Vla *ff*

Vc *ff*

28

B♭Cl *mf* *mp* *mf*

Vln 1 *mf* *mp* *f* *mp* *mf*

Vln 2 *mf* *mp* *f* *mp* *mf*

Vla *mf* *mp* *f* *mp* *mf*
pizz. arco

Vc *mf* *mp* *f* *mp* *mf*
al tallone

32

B♭Cl *ff* *pp*

Vln 1 *f* *ff* *f* *pp*
al tallone (ord.)

Vln 2 *f* *ff* *p*
al tallone sul tasto

Vla *f* *ff* *p*
al tallone sul tasto

Vc *f* *ff* *f* *pp*
al tallone (ord.)

36

B♭Cl *mf* *f*

Vln 1 *mf* *f*
(sul G) spiccato

Vln 2 *mp* *mf* *f*
(sul G) spiccato

Vla *mp* *mf* *f*
(sul G) spiccato

Vc *mf* *f*
(sul D) spiccato

40

B♭Cl

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vla

Vc

42

B♭Cl

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vla

Vc

45

B♭Cl

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vla

Vc

Slowly, molto rubato (♩ = c.54)

48

B♭Cl *p* *pp*

Vln 1

Vln 2 *p* (very expressively)

Vla *pp* *p* 3 *p* (very expressively)

Vc *p* (very expressively)

53

B♭Cl (distantly) 3 3 3 *mp* (very expressively) 3 *mf*

Vln 1 *p* (very expressively) 3 *mf*

Vln 2 *mf*

Vla *mf*

Vc *mp* 3 *mf*

59

B♭Cl *pp* *mf* *pp* *mp* *f*

Vln 1 *p* *mp* *f*

Vln 2 *pp* *p* *mp* *f*

Vla *mp* *mp* *f*

Vc *p* *mf* *mp* *f*

65

B♭Cl *mp* *p*

Vln 1 *niente*

Vln 2 *niente*

Vla *niente* play behind the bridge

Vc (rebow as needed) *niente* *pp* *slow* *fast* *slow*

70

B♭Cl *pp* *poco rit.*

Vln 1 *p* *mf* *poco rit.*

Vln 2 *p* *poco rit.*

Vla (ord.) *p* *poco rit.*

Vc *f* *ppp* *f* *ppp* *poco rit.* (ord.) *f*

74 Moderately (♩ = 72)

B♭Cl *mf* *f* *mp* *cresc.*

Vln 1 *f* *mf*

Vln 2 *mf* *gliss., high as possible*

Vla *f* *pizz.* *mp* *cresc.*

Vc *f* *pizz.* *mp* *cresc.*

76

B♭Cl

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vla

Vc

f

mf

f

mp

f

mp

f

mp

78

B♭Cl

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vla

Vc

mf

80

B♭Cl

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vla

Vc

f

mf

f

mf

110 *slow* *fast* *p* *molto rit.* *pp*

B♭Cl

Vln 1 *molto rit.* *ppp*

Vln 2 *molto rit.* *ppp*

Vla *molto rit.* *ppp*

Vc *molto rit.* *ppp*

Fast and fleeting (♩ = 92)

118 *f* (lengthy marcato) *f* *sempre* *f* *sempre* *f* *sempre* *f* *sempre*

B♭Cl

Vln 1 *pizz.* *f* *sempre*

Vln 2 *pizz.* *f* *sempre*

Vla *pizz.* *f* *sempre*

Vc *pizz.* *f* *sempre*

122 *fz* *ff* *sempre* *ff* *sempre* *ff* *sempre* *ff* *sempre*

B♭Cl

Vln 1 *arco* *ff* *sempre*

Vln 2 *arco* *ff* *sempre*

Vla *arco* *ff* *sempre*

Vc *arco* *ff* *sempre*

125

B♭Cl

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vla

Vc

127

B♭Cl

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vla

Vc

130

Suddenly very slow (♩ = c.50)

B♭Cl

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vla

Vc

sfff *molto rit. al fine* *pp* *long*

sfff *molto rit. al fine* *pp* *pizz.* *sfz*

sfff *molto rit. al fine* *pp* *pizz.* *sfz*

sfff *mf* *molto rit. al fine* *pp* *pizz.* *sfz*

sfff *mf* *molto rit. al fine* *pp* *pizz.* *sfz*